

Connected

Sunday 6th June 2021
1st Sunday after Trinity

Verse For The Week

The name of the LORD is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

(Proverbs 18: 10)

Sermon Snippets

Genesis 11: 1-9

How high can you build a tower? I expect, like me, you've tried to see how high you can build a tower out of building blocks.

Truth is, it's never that high after all. The people who first lived in Babylon wanted to build such a tower - their folly was to think it could "reach into the heavens". In their arrogance, they thought they might start to become like God if they could get to him. Actually, as we realise, that was impossible - but the wonder of the Christian faith is that God hasn't asked us to make it all the way to him . . . rather He has come to us. This is the glory of our faith - that what to us was impossible was the very thing that God himself did. In Christ He came to us.

How much of your and my Christian life is trying to "build our own towers" i.e. to be godly but without God's help - and how much is accepting that He came to us and relying on His help and strength?

Please pray



I received an email from Tear Fund in the office the other day. This is how it reads:

tearfund

Dear Friends,

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is in crisis. Decades of bitter conflict, combined with disease outbreaks and natural disasters, have forced more than five million people from their homes – including three million children.

Then on Saturday 22nd May, Nyiragongo volcano began to erupt with lava flowing into northern neighbourhoods of Goma. Tearfund's country director for the DRC, Hebdavi Muhindo sent a short video describing the situation.

You can watch the video by [clicking on this link](#).

Please do pray for this country in crisis. If you would like to make a donation to Tear Fund's work in the DRC, please [click on this link](#).

Thank you.

Watch this Sunday's Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page.

Prayer Pointers

Father God, we praise you for your constant faithfulness in this ever-changing world.

Church Family:

We lift up to you Lord our loved ones, those in our Church family who are sick, suffering, lost, lonely, hurting or bereaved. We pray that they may know God's presence amidst their pain.

Father God we bring before you those in our Church family who are feeling stretched at this time. We pray that they can cope and that they will remain hopeful that God will bring strength and peace.

The Local area:

Lord as we all enjoy the sunshine and the warm weather, and as we approach a season of significantly new beginnings as restrictions slowly ease, we pray that all can find peace and refreshment in God, and in signs of His love and splendour in creation. Help us to appreciate Your creation in the week ahead.

National Prayer:

We pray for our Prime Minister and the decisions he has to make on a daily basis, and for the whole of parliament, as we ask for unity, strength, wisdom and peace for all.

Let us pray for our police force as they seek to enforce regulations, and we ask you, God, to help them to act in a way that is measured but effective, so that the vulnerable are protected. We pray that this would not be a time when evil is able to flourish or the weak are oppressed, but that you, God, would work through human agents to uphold justice.

"For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer." (Romans 13:4)

Global Prayer:

Lord we lift before you the country of India, where social distancing and the wearing of masks is quite impossible, where they have very few doctors and millions of people in a Covid-19 crisis; for the aid workers as they too are struggling with the mass illness. Lord we ask for your hand into this situation and ask for healing and peace to fill this land.

Notices

Annual Church Meetings

A reminder that the Emmanuel Church Meeting will take place on Sunday 06 June after the morning service.

For those who missed it, the Christ Church Meeting is still available to watch on the Christ Church website. Go to the [APCM Page](#) under the What's On menu.

Bible Notes

Bible Notes for July have arrived. Those who come to Christ Church services are asked to collect theirs from the box in the foyer. The remainder will be distributed before July 1st.

Mission Partner News

A new Prayer Letter from the Morrisseys is now on the Christ Church website. Go to the Mission Partner News page under the Church Life menu, or [click this link](#).

Church Services

We are currently holding the following services:

- Daily Prayer Online - [click here to view](#)
- Sunday Morning services at 10.30 at both Christ Church and Emmanuel. The Christ Church service will continue to be live-streamed - [click here to view](#)
- Wednesday Communion service at 10.30 at Emmanuel on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

We look forward to welcoming you at these services, whether in person or online.

Contact Details

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Faith in the Workplace - Sam Evans



You work in the operating theatre, yes? And I suppose most of the time the patients are unconscious and therefore you aren't actually talking to them?

Yes, I do. We also have patients having a local anaesthetic, in which case it's my job to talk to them as much as possible to distract them!

Do you work with the same team all the time?

Mostly I do; the surgeons tend to stay the same, as the theatre deals with elective orthopaedics, so I have got to know them pretty well, but the scrub nurses can change. Last year, with Covid, we had more change of staff, and there are always students at various intervals. I enjoy teaching new people the ropes.

As there aren't the same opportunities to talk as say, working on a ward, do the people you work with know that you're a Christian?

A couple of them do; maybe I should talk about it more often. Someone once came and asked me if I was a Christian, though, and said I had that sort of air about me!

I imagine, in the theatre situation, it's easier to show that you're a Christian than to talk about it. If someone has noticed from how you act, then you must be doing something right!

I'd like to think that's right, because to me it isn't just a job, it's a lifestyle choice and I'm doing what I love. I always try to give a part of myself to the job; even if I'm not talking about my faith I am helping to improve people's lives and that gives me great joy.

You are fortunate in doing a job in which you can show Christian love.

Yea, definitely. Even if the patient is asleep, you are an advocate for that patient; you are speaking for them when they can't speak for themselves. You need to make sure everyone is following the rules so the patient is as safe as possible, and it is incredibly humbling to be that voice for them.

Is there much chance to talk during operations, or is everyone too focussed on what they are doing? Is it possible to build a rapport with each other?

During tricky parts of an operation a surgeon needs to concentrate, and I can tell when those times happen. Setting up, or suturing after an operation, we can talk; sometimes generally, sometimes about the op itself, but building team rapport is so important.

I remember from my nursing days the sense of awe I felt in the theatre at the workings of the human body. Do you feel that increased sense of awe?

Definitely. I've always been fascinated by the human body, and seeing how bones are fixed and that a patient with arthritis, say, will wake up without the pain they've been in, is amazing. Watching implants being custom-made for patients is so fascinating. I could talk about it for hours! It hits me every so often how fantastic the human body is.

See next week's Connected for part two of Pat's interview with Sam.